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The Economic Foundations of Society. By ACHILLE LORIA. Translated from the second French edition by LINDLEY M KEASBEY. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1899. 8vo. pp. xii + 385.

THE second French edition of the *Economic Foundations of Society*, which Mr. Keasbey uses for his translation, is practically a new book. In response to a demand for a new French edition, Professor Loria rewrote and expanded what was originally an inaugural dissertation for the University of Sienna. Coming thirteen years later, it represents his more mature views.

This thesis is, briefly: all social relations are economic in their origin. Sociology can only assume a scientific character by recognizing this dependence. The most fundamental economic phenomena are those which arise under the condition of free land. Beginning with these, Professor Loria traces the evolution of society from a pre-capitalistic state to a future "final state," which will also be non-capitalistic. The intermediate state is divided into three periods, of which we are in the last; the slave economy, the serf economy, and the wage economy. Capitalistic property presupposes the exclusion of the masses from the soil. To do this two methods are employed: first, economic means, which the author does not analyze; second, the recourse to what he calls connective institutions, whose function seems to be that of police in keeping "hands off." These institutions are morality, law, and politics—"organic products of capitalistic property." A large part of the volume is devoted to the proof of this last point.

The book is one which will doubtless provoke considerable controversy. In spite of his modestly deprecating remarks in the preface, Mr. Keasbey seems to have succeeded well in preserving the clearness of style of the French edition.

KATHARINE BEMENT DAVIS.

The Commerce Clause of the Federal Constitution. By E. PARMALEE PRENTICE and JOHN G. EGAN. Chicago: Callaghan & Co., 1898. 8vo. pp. lxxv + 386.

THE history of the Supreme Court of the United States is divided by Mr. Bryce into three periods with reference to the political